

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 OIC-04 AGR-20 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02

FPC-01 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01

PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08

TRSE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 AF-10 NEA-10 /232 W

----- 108361

R 151210Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6576

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 EC BRUSSELS 1567

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, EEC

SUBJECT: UNGA: APRIL 9 SPECIAL SESSION

REFS: A) STATE 40930

B) BRUSSELS 1454

1. SUMMARY: THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC) IS CONSIDERING THE
QUESTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN THE UNGA SPECIAL
SESSION. THE COMMISSION HAS PREPARED SOME PRELIMINARY VIEWS

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ON THIS QUESTION AND ON THE SUBSTANTIVE POSITION THE EC MIGHT
TAKE AT THE SPECIAL SESSION. A WORKING GROUP OF THE EC

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL CONSIDER THE MATTER IN PREPARATION FOR THE APRIL 1-2 EC COUNCIL MEETING WHICH WILL DECIDE ON THE COMMUNITY'S APPROACH TO THE SPECIAL SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. BECAUSE CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE DISCUSSION AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION ARE COVERED BY THE ROME TREATY, THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC) IS CONSIDERING THE QUESTION OF ITS PARTICIPATION AS THE COMMUNITY IN THIS SPECIAL SESSION. THE EC (REPRESENTED BY THE EC COMMISSION) HAS OBSERVER STATUS ON THE UNGA ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (WITH THE RIGHT TO SPEAK BUT NO VOTE). THE COMMISSION ASSUMES THAT, SINCE THE SPECIAL SESSION WILL DEAL WITH ECONOMIC QUESTIONS, THE EC'S PRESENCE AS AN OBSERVER WITH THE RIGHT TO SPEAK WILL BE ACCEPTABLE. (THE COMMISSION RECOGNIZES, NONETHELESS, THAT THE UN MAY HAVE SOME LEGAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS.) THE QUESTION OF THE COMMUNITY'S PARTICIPATION AND ITS MODALITIES HAS NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY DECIDED HOWEVER.

3. THE EC COMMISSION HAS BEEN CONSIDERING THIS MATTER AND HAS PREPARED A PAPER WITH SOME PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS WHICH IT HAS SUBMITTED TO THE EC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES. A WORKING GROUP OF THE EC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES IS HAVING AN INITIAL DISCUSSION ON THIS PAPER MARCH 15. THE PERM REPS WILL PRESUMABLY CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE SUBJECT WITH A VIEW TO PRESENTING THE EC COUNCIL MEETING (FOREIGN MINISTERS) ON APRIL 1-2 WITH PROPOSALS ON THE QUESTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AT THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION INCLUDING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE COMMUNITY WOULD PARTICIPATE AND THE SUBSTANCE OF ITS POSITION.

4. A COMMISSION OFFICIAL RECENTLY DESCRIBED TO US, ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS, THE STATUS OF THESE COMMISSION PREPARATIONS. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE QUESTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION ARISES AS A RESULT OF THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES 113 AND 116 OF THE EEC TREATY. (UNDER ARTICLE 113, THE EC MEMBER STATES ACT AS THE COMMUNITY ON TRADE QUESTIONS WITH THE COMMISSION SPEAKING FOR THE COMMUNITY. ARTICLE 116 PROVIDES THAT IN ALL MATTERS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE COMMON MARKET THE EC MEMBER STATES WILL PROCEED WITHIN THE CONFIDENTIAL
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FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF AN ECONOMIC CHARACTER ONLY BY COMMON ACTION. ALSO RELEVANT, OF COURSE, IS THE FACT THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS ESTABLISHED A COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY SO THAT ALL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS MUST BE DEALT WITH IN A COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK.) ON OTHER MATTERS WHICH ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE EC, OUR SOURCE SAID THE COMMISSION FEELS THE MEMBER STATES SHOULD PROCEED ONLY BY COMMON ACTION AT THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION.

5. OUR SOURCE POINTED OUT THAT IF IT IS DECIDED AT THE

APRIL 1-2 EC COUNCIL MEETING THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD PARTICIPATE AS SUCH AT THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION, THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE DONE (IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMMUNITY PRACTICE) BY HAVING FRG FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL, AS PRESIDENT OF THE EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, SPEAK FOR THE COMMUNITY. (THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATED IN THE FEBRUARY 11-12 WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE, WHERE IT WAS REPRESENTED BY SCHEEL AND EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI.)

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6. OUR SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE COMMISSION BELIEVES THAT THE MAJOR SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AT THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION

WILL BE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS MUCH AS RAW MATERIALS. THIS BELIEF IS BASED ON A DRAFT AGENDA PREPARED BY INDIA, YUGOSLAVIA AND SRI LANKA WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF SOME 30 LDCS IN NEW YORK ON MARCH 8. (WE ASSUME USUN IN THE DEPARTMENT HAS OBTAINED A COPY OF THIS DRAFT.)

7. A SUMMARY OF THE COMMISSION'S TENTATIVE THINKING ON THE
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SUBSTANTIVE POSITION THE COMMUNITY SHOULD TAKE AT THE SPECIAL SESSION IS GIVEN BELOW. ANOTHER COMMISSION SOURCE TOLD US THAT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION IN THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. HE CHARACTERIZED THE PAPER PREPARED BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE PERM REPS AS BEING "VERY POOR" AND THAT MUCH WORK REMAINED TO BE DONE BEFORE COMMUNITY VIEWS CRYSTALIZED.

8. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE COMMISSION PAPER'S DESCRIPTION OF THE ELEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN A COMMUNITY POSITION AT THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION:

A. THE RAPID RISE IN WORLD PRICES BOTH FOR RAW MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURED GOODS JEOPARDIZES WORLD ECONOMIC STABILITY AND IN THE LONG TERM, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

B. DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MUST MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO ASSURE THAT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION AND ANARCHY DO NOT DEVELOP AND SPECIAL CONCERN MUST BE SHOWN FOR THE COUNTRIES WITH THE MOST MEAGER RESOURCES.

C. THE COMMUNITY IS NOT SEEKING TO AVOID A FAIR RE-ADJUSTMENT OF RELATIVE PRICES IN FAVOR OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PRODUCING RAW MATERIALS, BUT ADJUSTMENTS MUST BE MADE IN A WAY TO MITIGATE TRAUMATIC CONSEQUENCES.

D. THE COMMUNITY UNDERTAKES THROUGH ITS TRADE POLICIES AND AID PROGRAMS TO CONTRIBUTE TO LDC DEVELOPMENT BUT IT CAN ONLY MAKE ITS FULL CONTRIBUTION IF WORLD ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND TRADE ARE MAINTAINED.

E. BECAUSE OF THE GROWING SCARCITY OF RAW MATERIALS, THE COMMUNITY WILL PARTICIPATE IN INITIATIVES AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL DESIGNED TO ENSURE THE CONSERVATION AND RATIONALIZATION OF RAW MATERIALS.

F. THE COMMUNITY REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO CONTRIBUTE TO LDC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TRADE (I.E. GENERALIZED

PREFERENCES), DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND POSSIBLE COM-
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MODIFY AGREEMENTS IN APPROPRIATE CASES.

G. THE COMMUNITY UNDERTAKES TO JOIN WITH OTHERS IN A
WORLD EFFORT TO COMPENSATE THE LOSS OF PURCHASING POWER
OF THOSE COUNTRIES MOST ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND INVITES
ALL DONORS TO DECLARE THAT THEY WILL NOT CUT BACK THEIR
AID PROGRAM.GREENWALD

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